

SOVIET RELEASES TWO U. S. TOURISTS

State Department Says Men
Were Accused of Having
Entered Banned Zone

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Special to The New York Times.

According to the State Department, the embassy had "expressed concern" over the fact

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Two American tourists, held incommunicado for seven weeks by Soviet authorities, have been released and expelled from the Soviet Union, the State Department said today.

The two are Harvey C. Bennett, 26 years old, of Bath, Maine, and Mark I. Kaminsky, 28, of Edwardsburg, Mich.

The State Department said that the Soviet Foreign Ministry had informed the United States after their return to this Embassy today of the expulsion of the two tourists at the border crossing point of Uzhgorodsky, both of whom speak Russian, entered the Soviet Union from Finland on July 27. They

Embassy officials assumed that the men had been released. They had been scheduled to either yesterday or early today, leave the Soviet Union at the

In informing the embassy of the expulsion, the Soviet Foreign Ministry said that the two Americans had been detained since Aug. 25, "when they departed from their permitted itinerary and deliberately penetrated a significant distance into a forbidden border zone."

On Sept. 8, the State Department received a telegram from Mr. Bennett's wife stating that her husband was a letter from Vinnitsa, dated Aug. 19, in which he said that they had had auto trouble but planned to leave through Chop in about six days.

A series of inquiries by the United States Embassy brought replies from Intourist, the official Soviet travel agency, that the whereabouts of the men was unknown.

The Soviet authorities also asserted, the embassy reported, that films and notebooks taken from Mr. Kaminsky had "showed that he had been violating Soviet laws by gathering information on military objectives."

As a consequence, the Soviet Foreign Ministry said, Mr. Kaminsky had been accused of violating Article 2 of the Soviet law on state crimes, turned over to a court, and expelled along with Mr. Bennett from the Soviet Union.

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